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Parks and Recreation Minutes 11/12/2002

Park and Recreation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, November 12, 2002 at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVED- Meeting Minutes

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting came to order at 7:30 PM.

Commissioners Present: Don Vitters, Leslie Mayer, Joe Carabello, Bernice Jones and Mark McCabe

Staff Present: Jon Jalbert

Others Present: FOCCA members: Mary Jane Sassler, Roselyn Smith, Liz Lynch, Holly Kennedy, Jessica Hekman, John Hsu, John Demirjian, Leslie Longo, Avon Russell, Carol Luddecke. General public- Ann Smith, Richard Smith, and Carol Springs.

1. Minutes

Motion made to approve 10/17/02 minutes with changes. Approved 5-0.

2. Dog Park in Arlington– Holly Kennedy, Mary Jane Sassler and John Hsu

Mrs. Kennedy presented as chairperson of Friends of the Canine Citizens of Arlington, FOCCA. Their mission is to establish, with the Park Commissioners, a confined area somewhere within the Arlington Parks system for a dog park.

Mrs. Sassler continued with their proposal in writing for the commission to review and offer questions. FOCCA is currently gathering names for a petition, which they put on-line at Arlingtondogs.com.

Mr. Hsu discussed the website he created for FOCCA.

Motion was made to have a Park Commissioner volunteer to work with this group and come up with an area suitable for a dog park. Seconded by Mr. McCabe and approved 5-0. Leslie Mayer volunteered to work with FOCCA.

3. Arlington Babe Ruth, Summer St. Field- Jack Lepore

The Park Commissioners expressed their disappointment to Mr. Lepore regarding the agreement made last Spring to install a warning track, yellow tubing and outfield fence as drawn to spec by Andrew Leonard. The fence was the only installed piece and a part of the fence still needs to be added between the basketball courts and the playground.

Mr. Lepore apologized and stated the money was not available after the fence was put in. The yellow tubing has been ordered and he is currently talking to contractors to get the warning track and remaining fence completed.

Motion made once a contractor is selected the project must be reviewed and approved by Mr. Jalbert and Andrew Leonard prior to start of construction. Motion accepted 5-0.

4. Arlington Sports Center Improvement Committee (SCIC)- Jon Jalbert & Mark McCabe

Mr. McCabe updated the commission on the latest. The SCIC members still have not received the approved changes to the scope of services from Arrowstreet Inc. Mr. Jalbert updated the commissioners on the improvement projects that are being worked on and the completed projects as well. Mr. Jalbert handed out the survey results done last Spring and Summer.

5. Capital Project Review and CDBG Update- Don Vitters

Mr. Vitters presented photos on all the projects currently in progress. Also, Mr. Vitters presented the Capital Budget Request that was handed into the Capital Planning Committee to be discussed at their next meeting on Tuesday,

November 19, 2002 at 4 pm (Annex room, 2nd floor).

Spy Pond Shores- Mr. Carabello again asked if CRJ spoke with Rich Maimone regarding the emergency boat ramp and no news thus far. Currently in Phase One- Schematic Design and Permitting.

Robbins Farm- Discussion about the removal of the tennis courts and the revision of the path plans.

Summer Street- Project not completed at this time, the fencing needs to be finalized. The commissioners requested that payment be held until the damages done to the outside and entrance from Ryder St. have been repaired.

Thorndike Field- The commission agreed to go with timber post and rail to fence the remaining distance of Thorndike Field. Mr. Vitters will get quote from contractor and contact Andrew Leonard to possibly draw up plans.

Peirce Playground- Mr. Vitters spoke with John Cole in getting the RCN box moved to another location.

Bishop Playground- Mr. Jalbert reported there has been no progress made as of today getting the rotting wood replaced in the playground. The commission again expressed their frustrations in getting this project completed and if not soon they should consider doing it themselves.

Pine & Swallow- Mr. Vitters presented the draft report from Pine and Swallow and asked everyone to review the report.

6. DPW-Parks Update- Bill Jones

Mr. Jones was not present tonight.

8. Recreation and Rink Update- Jon Jalbert

Mr. Jalbert asked the commissioners to vote on authorizing \$5,000 from Park Beautification Fund for the Recreation Software package. Mr. Jalbert will work with Data Processing Department to make sure the system in the office will be compatible. Motion was made to accept the use of \$5,000 in funds to purchase the software system. Motion accepted 4-1.

Mr. Jalbert updated the commissioners on the rink with no major issues at this time.

Projects still on hold are:

1. Signs presentation with costs for making uniformed signs for all parks in Arlington.
2. Maintenance costs by field.

11. Others

All Day and Overnight Parking- Mrs. Mayer presented the commissioners the letter to Arlington Housing Authority. Motion was made to accept letter written and to send to Arlington Housing Authority. Motion accepted 5-0.

Reeds Brook- Mrs. Jones stated she attended the last Redevelopment Board Meeting. The Board was asking why the Park Commissioners voted against a dog park at Reeds Brook. Also, the Board stated they are in support of a skateboard park at the site. Mrs. Jones asked what happens to the site after it is developed?

Commission Meeting Guidelines- Tabled until next meeting.

Storage Shed Policy- Tabled until next meeting.

The Commission adjourned at 10:55 pm.

Jon Jalbert, Superintendent of Recreation, took minutes